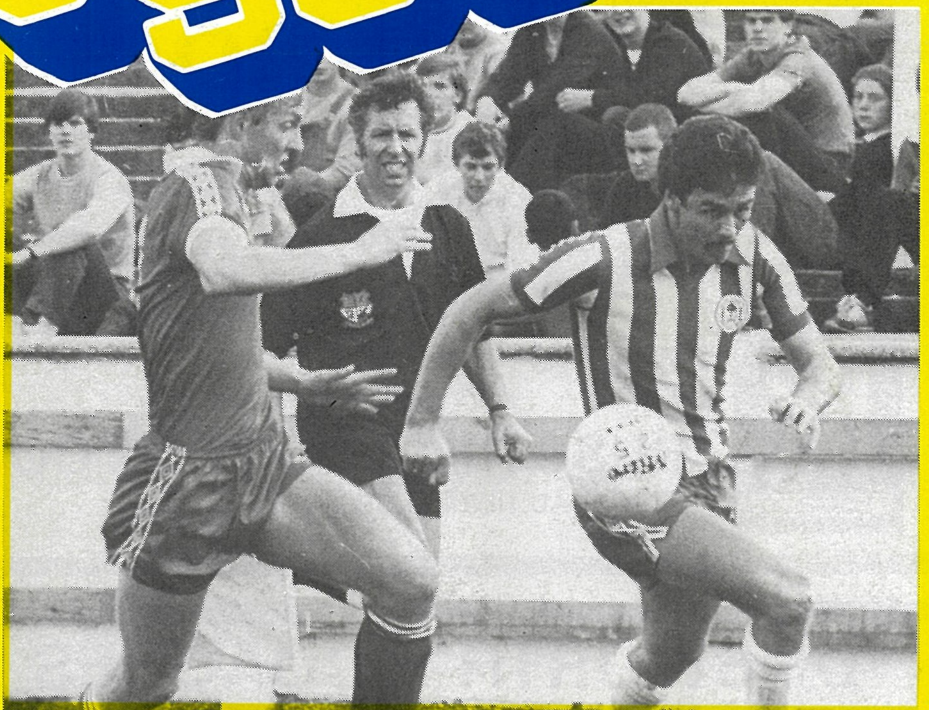
25p

THE OFFICIAL PROGRAMME OF WIGAN ATHLETIC

SPRINGFIELD SCENE



Saturday, 30th August, 1980 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- ALDERSHOT

Today's Match is sponsored by J. P. Dunn & Co. Limited

WIGAN ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FOOTBALL CLUB LIMITED,

Chairman:
Mr. F. Pye

Vice Chairman:
Mr. G. D. Gorner

Directors:
Messrs. R. Charlton C.B.E.
B. Connolly
A. Eckersley
J. H. Farrimond
A. O. Horrocks
A. Muir

President:
Mr. A. O. Horrocks

Registered Office: Springfield Park, Wigan. Telephone: Wigan 44433.

Company Secretary:
Mr. E. Jones
Team Manager:
Mr. I. M. McNeill
Commercial Manager:
Mr. J. T. Sudworth
Hon. Med. Officers:
Dr. G. Menon
Dr. S. K. Ahuja
Dr. J. Coffey
Hon. Club Chaplain:
Rev. D. Hall



MY POINT OF VIEW

Good Afternoon all

A very warm welcome to Tom McAnearney and his attractive Aldershot team. We have in the past two seasons come to expect a nice brand of football from the "Shots" and at the moment we are ahead in results by three games to one, but today, will be a real testing time for our lads. We are in the unenviable position of having 91 teams above us, but I am as optimistic as ever that I have the players at Springfield Park to do the job, and it is only a matter of time before we are back on the winning trail. No time would be better than today!

League Cup

Our game with Preston next Wednesday evening is still very tight, and I am hopeful that we will pull it off. If was a creditable performance at Deepdale and we battled hard. Preston, I feel, is a very sweet-moving side, but I feel they have some weaknesses that we can exploit, and with our eager fans behind us, I am confident we can pull through to the next round.

Enjoy today's game.

Ian McNeill

Ian McNeill

Front Page Picture — Peter Houghton, eye on the ball, bursts past the anxious Hartlepool United defender. (Photograph by courtesy of Wigan Observer).

GREAT NAMES FROM THE PAST

BY HAROLD ASHURST

THE FIRST manager Latics ever had, and what a man he proved to be, was ex-Newcastle United captain and England international Charlie Spencer.

When he was appointed manager in August, 1932, Mr. C.W. Spencer had just two weeks to get a team together. After some frantic efforts and shrewd persuasion, he managed to bring a side together, and it proved to be one of the best-ever to wear Wigan Athletic colours.

For their first match, against Port Vale Reserves, Latics had more than 7,000 people watching, and although they lost the encounter, they still managed to average more than 6,000 spectators throughout the season.

Charlie Spencer was more than just a good manager, he was a great character, and a strict disciplinarian. One of the best-known stories about him concerns the ritual which surrounded his arrival at the ground in the morning. At the time he lived in Blackpool and was one of the few people in the area to have a car. The players, all full-time professionals, had been told to report every morning at ten a.m. and Mr. Spencer generally arrived about ten minutes later. The players used to lounge around the dressing rooms until they heard the familiar sound of their manager's car drawing up outside. That was the signal to move, for by the time Charlie walked into the dressing room, the players were changed into their kit and ready for training!

When he left Wigan to join First Division Grimsby Town, he promised Latics he would bring his new team to play them in a friendly.

It was a promise he was to keep, for more than six years later he brought his star-studded side to Springfield Park after the end of the War and they beat Latics 5-2 in front of 16,000 people, still a record for a friendly match at Springfield Park.

After managing Grimsby Town, he joined York City and a fact that not many people know, is that he wanted to re-join Wigan in the early fifties and indeed was on the short list for the managerial vacancy when Latics appointed another great character the late Ted Goodier.

Charlie Spencer was dogged by ill health for some years and he died in Blackpool, where he spent most of his life at the age of fifty-four. He is still held in awe and great respect by those who supported the club in its early days.



RESERVE ROUNDUP

by Fred Eyre

ONE OF the advantages of the reserve team playing mid-week is that it leaves me available for any special jobs which manager Ian McNeill may want doing on a Saturday.

Such an occasion arose last Saturday. Having been drawn against our near neighbours Preston North End in the Second Round of the League Cup, it was an ideal opportunity to go to Deepdale and watch the Second Division side in action against newly-relegated Bristol City.

There were many interesting points to note and hopefully my report to the boss will help our players, in what should be an exciting encounter.

On the same Saturday morning, our youth team got off to a winning start with a fine 2-0 victory over a very tough Oldham Athletic side, goals by promising central defender Steve Silcock and Scottish apprentice professional striker Paul Hendry saw us through. One of the highlights of the game was the outstanding performance by Davie Glenn who we are hoping will cause some defences a few problems in the reserve team this season.

The Oldham game was followed by a goal-less draw, away at Tranmere, so this has been a pleasing start to the season for our young players.



COMMERCIAL CHATTER

I AM OFTEN asked by supporters whether there is any way in which they can help the club on an occasional rather than regular basis. Obviously, the pace of modern life is such that the average individual has more than enough on his or her plate coping with domestic and employment commitments. However, from time to time, people feel motivated to put a little bit more into life in respect of a particular hobby or activity. The football supporter, anxious to see his team do well, is often tempted to have his say or volunteer his services.

My first reaction is to tell the supporter that the Wigan Athletic Football Club "belongs" to every man, woman and child who cares about the welfare of the club. I then go on to point out the obvious ways in which they can demonstrate their support — the selling of lottery tickets, shouting as hard for the team when things are going wrong just as much as they would do when a run of success is being enjoyed, clubbing together with fellow supporters and work mates to donate a match ball, encouraging their employers to advertise or sponsor a game, and generally "promote" the club by speaking as much good of our organisation as they can. It is very important that with each new generation of supporters the task of establishing the Wigan Athletic Football Club goes on in a positive and productive way. In terms of life expectancy, directors, managers, players and supporters can only offer a limited period of commitment, whereas the club must continue, across the years, as a central point of interest for the community at large. Any contribution, however small, is to be valued and appreciated. Is there any further way which you can help the cause to flourish?

We are pleased to acknowledge the sponsoring of today's game by J. P. Dunn & Co. Ltd., of Gadfa Buildings, Bolton Road, Ashton-in-Makerfield. Similarly we are pleased to draw attention to the donation of today's match ball by Mabs Cross Motors Limited of Mesnes Street, Wigan — the town's Vauxhall Centre. The support of these two companies is greatly appreciated.

Enjoy today's game.

Jack Sudworth
Commercial Manager.

Letterbox

Springfield Park, Wigan. 27th August, 1980.

This week we have two prize-winning contributions. Both Mrs. Prescott and Mr. Fisher will receive a complimentary ticket for the Wigan Athletic v Port Vale game on 6th September, 1980. Keep the letters rolling in.

Jack Sudworth Commercial Manager.

35, Drummond Square, Worsley Hall Estate, Pemberton, Wigan, Lancs, WN5 9RR.

Dear Sir,

On behalf of myself and many other Latics supporters, I must remark on the new improvements to the ground, especially the new terracing at the town end. When it is finished, it will provide a great vantage point for those wishing to get a better view of the game, and, in future seasons, when we are in a higher division, improvements can only get better and better.

Yours sincerely,
David Fisher.

19, Graham Avenue, Appley Bridge, Nr. Wigan, Lancs. 11th August, 1980.

Dear Sir,

As a Wigan supporter of long standing, I was taken aback at the game between Wigan Athletic and Warsaw Legia. To come to my point, the playing of the National Anthems gave me a sense of Nationalism and pride. I just want to mention how grand the Anthem would sound if Wigan Athletic made a record with a Brass Band, with the Directors, staff, and some of our most ardent supporters singing together. What a good rumbustious sound they would make! Space could be left on the record for the manager Mr. McNeill to say some well-chosen words which would go down well at most of the matches. I'm sure there would be less trouble amongst the spectators and Wigan could start the ball rolling for other clubs to follow suit. If this record could not be played for ordinary league games then I do think it could be played when there are F.A. Cup matches, which to my mind are big occasions for the fans.

Coming back to the Polish match, I did think the Band (St. Wilfred's) were excellent and I for one would certainly like to see them back on the ground, or, better still this could be the band with which Wigan could record. It is a pity the evening's weather was so miserable, but I wish the club and everyone associated with it "A Happy Innings".

Sincerely,
Mrs. Elizabeth Prescott.

PHOTOFILE



(Photo by courtesy of Evening Post & Chronicle)



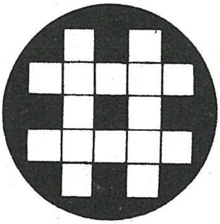
(Photo by courtesy of Evening Post & Chronicle)



(Photo by courtesy of Evening Post & Chronicle)

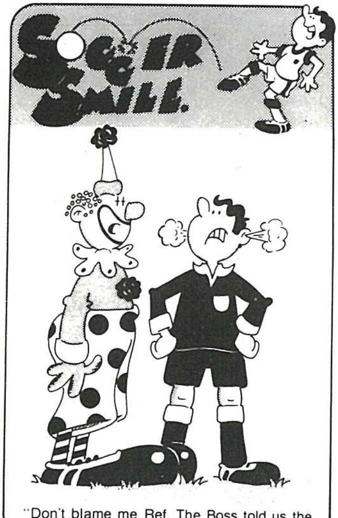
LEFT:
Dave McMullan shows a clean pair of heels to his opponent and prepares to meet the next challenge.
ABOVE:
Not this time, son! Dave McMullan is halted in full flight.
FAR LEFT:
Spot the ball! Both Wigan Athletic and Hartlepool United players seem to be in some doubt as to the location of the ball.

PASTIME-FUNTIME



ON THE BALL No. 3
Every answer has five letters and the first one fits into the top line, but you have to decide where the rest must go.

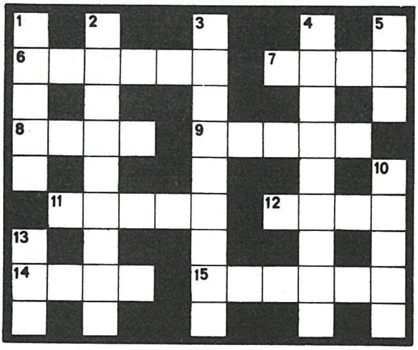
McNeill, maybe; England full-back in 1980; "The Leatherhead Lip"; Former Eire boss



"Don't blame me Ref. The Boss told us the fans wanted more entertaining football".

CLUB CLUE No. 3
Solve this cryptic clue to identify a soccer side:
Goes in front, they tell us.

MIXED DOUBLES No. 3
Rearrange the letters in each of the words **MARS and THRONES** to find the names of two League Clubs.



SOCCER NINETY-NINER
No. 3 (compiled by David Peck)

ACROSS

1. Rotterdam side with sundry English connections (6)

7 & 9ac Penalty score by which Czechoslovakia beat Italy to take third place in the 1980 European Championships (4-5)

The hooters of Hillsborough? (4)

9. See **7ac**

11 Former Preston boss ——— Britton . . . (5)

12 . . . had there followed Frank ——— who, oddly enough, had followed **him** at Burnley! (4)

14 See 13**dn**

15 Soccer statistician long associated with **Rothmans Football Yearbook** (6)

DOWN

1 Father and son who starred in turn for Manchester United (5)

2 The 1980 FA Cup Final 'kid' (4,5)

3 League of Ireland side (9)

4 Coventry's name is --- Road ... (9)

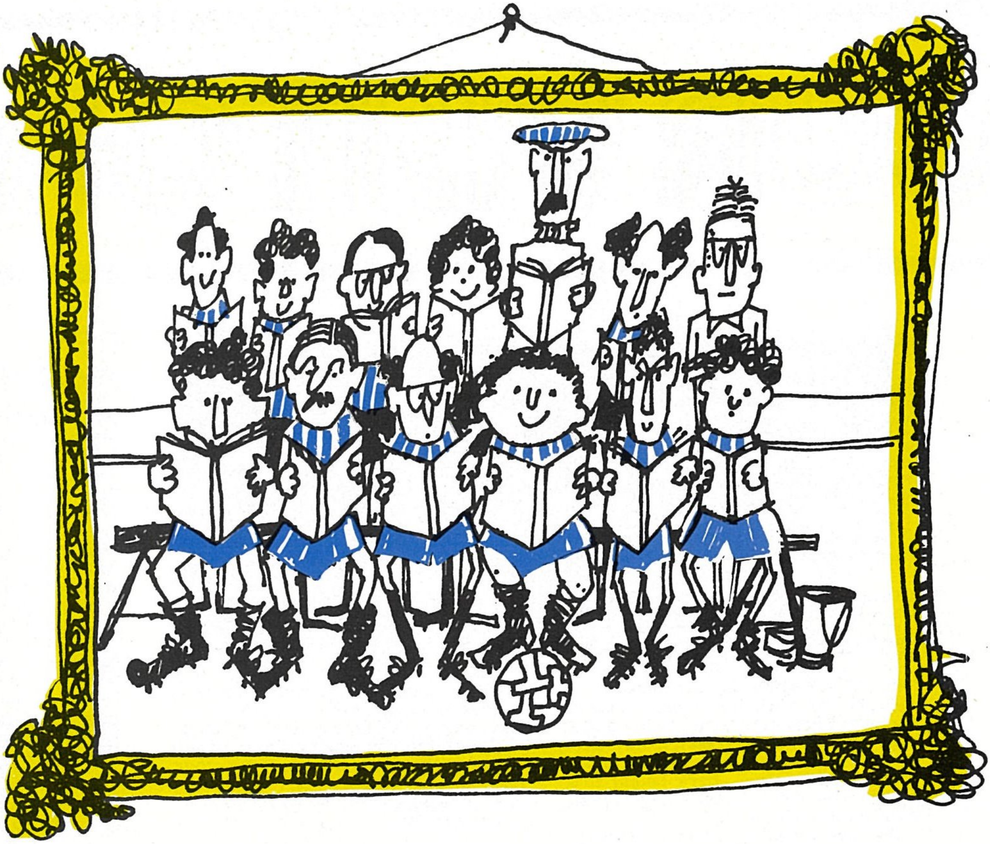
5 ... which is where --- Sealey has been for some seasons (3)

10 Former League coach Keith --- has followed Bob Houghton as manager of Malmo (5)

13 & 14ac. Manager who joined Bury during the summer (3,4)

1980/81 series

Answers on Page 22.



Books on Football?

Books on practically everything at Smiths bookshop. Wigan's largest selection of Magazines, Records, Paperbacks, Text Books, Maps and Stationery.

Come and see for yourself.

smiths bookshop

41 Mesnes Street Wigan Telephone Wigan 46270/42810

OUR VISITORS



ALDERSHOT FOOTBALL CLUB Season 1980-1981 (Left to right) **Back Row:** Nigel Edwards, Andy Needham, Tommy Youlden, Glen Johnson, Alex McGregor, Murray Brodie, Colin Garwood. **Centre Row:** John Anderson (Trainer), Micky French, Alan Wooler, Graham Horn, Peter Scott, Mark Sanford, Paul Bennett, Len Walker (Coach). **Front Row:** Stuart Robinson, Dave Tomlin, Malcolm Crosby, Joe Jopling, Tom McAnearney (Manager), Les Briley, Paul Hampshire, Brian Lucas, Colin Fielder.

THIS AFTERNOON we are pleased to welcome the Aldershot Football Club to Springfield Park for what promises to be a most attractive early-season fixture. Our visitors, under their respected manager, Tommy McAnearney, have begun this season well with five points gained from three games played.

We have undoubtedly had the better of previous exchanges, with three victories to Aldershot's one in the four games played. However, with the "Shots" anxious to keep up the momentum of their good start to the league campaign, and our own lads looking to build on their encouraging mid-week performance at Preston, today's game is likely to be a tense and keenly-fought encounter. A close watch will need to be kept on Aldershot's "dynamic-duo" Murray Brodie and Colin Garwood, who are already proving quite a handful for opposing defences and making their mark in the goal-scoring charts. After the "disappointment" of finishing tenth in Dvision Four last season, following near misses for promotion in successive seasons this year's experienced and well-balanced squad of Aldershot players is already being tipped as a likely promotion-winning side this time around. The stage is set then for an exciting confrontation between two clubs noted for their commitment to attacking football. We look forward eagerly to some first-rate entertainment.

PREVIOUS LEAGUE RESULTS

SEASON 1978-1978

30th December 1978 Wigan Ath. 3 Aldershot 2
H.T. Score 2-1 Att. 7,289
Scorers: Wigan Athletic: Houghton (2) Moore
Aldershot: McGregor and Wooler

21st April 1979 Aldershot 1 Wigan Ath. 0
H. T. Score 0-0 Att. 5,466
Scorers: Aldershot: Dungworth (Penalty)
Wigan Athletic —

SEASON 1979-1980

5th March 1980 Wigan Ath. 2 Aldershot 1
H. T. Score 1-0 Att. 5,018
Scorers: Wigan Ath: Corrigan and Houghton
Aldershot: Garwood

3rd May, 1980 Aldershot 0 Wigan Ath. 3
H. T. Score 0-0 Att. 2,683
Scorers: Aldershot —
Wigan Ath. Corrigan & Shearer (2)

ALDERSHOT F.C.

PEN PICTURE

PAUL BENNETT
his local club Sou
and turned profe
1969. Made his d
April 1972 agains
Transferred to Rea
signed from there
LES BRILEY — M
capture from Wim
where he had bee
Lambeth and was
of Chelsea before
Hereford United in
MURRAY BROD
Glasgow born S
Aldershot from Le



Jopling exchange
1970. Can play mid
a striker. Highest n
among current pla
MALCOLM CRO
Longest serving m
squad having been
in 1970. Born South
debut as substitute
February 1972 wh
forms. Turned pro
NIGEL EDWARD
Wrexham-born
International on tw
73 and once in 197
in 1978 close se
whom he had over
games. Also had
Rotherham United
MICKY FRENCH
close season sig
Rovers, this East
forward started hi
Park Rangers but
League outings

Ground: The Recreation Ground, High Street, Aldershot

Year Formed: 1926

Football League Record:
1932 Elected to Division 3 (South)
1958-1973 Division 4
1973-1976 Division 3
1976-1980 Division 4

S

— **Defender** — Joined
thampton from school
essional in November
debut at centre-half in
st Tottenham Hotspur.
ading in July 1976 and
in August 1979.
Midfield — A £40,000
bledon in March 1980
n club captain. Born in
originally on the books
making his debut for
n September 1976.
DIE — Forward —
Scot who came to
icester City in the Joe



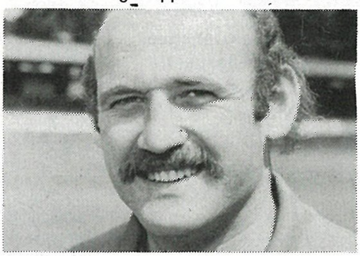
deal in September
field, on the wing or as
umber of appearances
yers with the Club.
SBY — Midfield —
member of the current
signed as a 16 year old
h Shields and made his
e against Darlington in
hile still on apprentice
essional July 1972.
S — Defender — A
Welsh Under-23
vo occasions in 1972-
73-74. Full-back signed
son from Chester for
r 300 League and Cup
a spell on loan to
.
— **Forward** — A 1979
ning from Doncaster
bourne born centre-
s career with Queens
was given his initial
by Brentford. Also
played for Swindon Town

COLIN GARWOOD — Forward — Centre-forward signed for a record £54,000 in February 1980 from Portsmouth. Much travelled striker and prolific scorer, his service with Peterborough United, Oldham Athletic, Huddersfield Town and Colchester United helped to yield 144 League goals overall, up to the end of 1979-80.

PAUL HAMPSHIRE — Forward — Guildford born player who made numerous reserve team appearances during the 1978-79 season before signing professionally in June 1979. Played for Surry Under-19's and Surrey Youth during his early association with the club.

GRAHAM HORN — Goalkeeper — Signed in January 1980 from Southend United and previously with Kettering Town, Charlton Athletic, Brentford (on loan), Luton Town, Portsmouth (on loan) and like Glen Johnson began his career with Arsenal.

GLEN JOHNSON — Goalkeeper — Former England youth international with Arsenal being capped in 1970 v Eire.



Later with Doncaster Rovers with whom he made over 100 League and Cup appearances and Walsall (on loan). Now in his eighth season. Born Barrow.

JOE JOPLIN — Defender — Returned to Aldershot in 1974 after nearly four years with Leicester City and a short loan period with Torquay United. Comes from South Shields and is a central defender who began as a full-back. League debut November 1969. Club Captain.

BRIAN LUCAS — Forward — Farnborough-born winger who played for Aldershot and Farnborough Schools, Hants Schools and Youth teams. Turned professional in July 1978 and made his League debut in February 1980 v Walsall.

ALEX McGREGOR — Forward — Glasgow born winger who began with Troon and graduated to Ayr United and Hibernian before moving south to Shrewsbury Town. Is now in his fifth season with Aldershot after a brief spell with West Ham United. Club debut in October 1976.

ANDY NEEDHAM — Forward — Made his First Division debut for Birmingham City in March 1876 and moved to Blackburn Rovers that summer. Came to Aldershot on loan in March 1977 and signed permanently the next month. Product of Harlow and Essex Boys originally.

STUART ROBINSON — Midfield — A 1980 close season capture from Newcastle United, for whom he made his debut in December 1977 v Leicester City. Had been an apprentice with them in December 1975 and became a professional in June 1977. Born Middlesbrough.

MARK SANFORD — Forward — A Londoner, he made a number of reserve team appearances before turning professional with the club in June 1979. Has represented Hampshire schools and youth teams and made his League debut in December 1979 v Bournemouth.

PETER SCOTT — Defender — Signed in March 1979 from York City, this full-back became Aldershot's first full international when he came on as substitute for Northern Ireland v Scotland in May 1979. Started his career with Everton and has ten Irish caps.

DAVID TOMLIN — Forward — Skilful flank player signed for the club from Torquay United a few days prior to the start of the 1978-79 season, Nuneaton born, he joined Leicester City as an apprentice turning professional and later being transferred to Torquay United in April 1977.

ALAN WOOLER — Defender — Versatile back-four player signed from West Ham in April 1976 and loaned to Boston Minutemen. Previously with Manchester United as a youth, Weymouth, Alton Town and Reading. Spends his summers with HJK Helsinki (Finland). Borne Poole.

TOMMY YOULDEN — Defender — Secured from Reading in April 1977 but had started his career with Arsenal, later moving to Portsmouth where he made his League debut. Had made over 250 League appearances before coming to Aldershot. London-born centre-half.

Apprentices: Colin Fielder and **Jeremy Jones.**

Home fixtures in capitals. Wigan scores first.

Player scoring in bold. † Player substituted.

² Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.
* In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	FIXTURE	F	A	ATT.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug. 9	CREWE ALEXANDRA F.L.Cup 1 1st Leg	2	1	5,512	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	**Gore²**	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Tierney	A. Quinn
Aug. 13	Crewe Alexandra F.L.Cup 1 2nd Leg AET	2	2	4,063	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	**Gore¹**	Methven	Davids	A. Quinn	Wright	Houghton	**Hutchinson¹**	Tierney	McMullan
Aug. 16	HARTLEPOOL UNITED	0	3	5,332	Brown	Fretwell	Whittle	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	A. Quinn	M. Quinn
Aug. 23	Lincoln City	0	2	3,939	Brown	Curtis	Fretwell	Gore	Methven	Davids	M. Quinn	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Whittle	D. McMullan
Aug. 27	Preston N.E. F.L.Cup 2 1st Leg.	0	1	8,028	Brown	Curtis	Fretwell	Gore	Methven	Davids	McMullan	Wright	Houghton	Hutchinson	Whittle	A. Quinn
Aug. 30	ALDERSHOT															
Sep. 3	PRESTON N.E. F.L. CUP 2 2nd LEG															
Sep. 6	PORT VALE															
Sep. 13	Darlington															
Sep. 16	Halifax Town															
Sep. 20	BURY															
Sep. 27	Mansfield Town															
Oct. 1	HALIFAX TOWN															
Oct. 4	Rochdale															
Oct. 8	DONCASTER ROVERS															
Oct. 11	PETERBOROUGH UNITED															
Oct. 18	Torquay United															
Oct. 20	Southend United															
Oct. 25	TRANMERE ROVERS															
Oct. 29	YORK CITY															
Nov. 1	A.F.C. Bournemouth															
Nov. 4	Doncaster Rovers															
Nov. 8	BRADFORD CITY															
Nov. 12	NORTHAMPTON TOWN															
Nov. 15	Hartlepool United															
Nov. 22	F.A. Cup 1															
Nov. 29	Hereford United															
Dec. 6	SCUNTHORPE UNITED															
Dec. 13	F.A. Cup 2															
Dec. 20	Wimbledon															
Dec. 26	CREWE ALEXANDRA															
Dec. 27	Stockport County															
Jan. 3	SOUTHEND UNITED															
Jan. 10	York City															
Jan. 17	HEREFORD UNITED															
Jan. 24	Aldershot															
Jan. 31	LINCOLN CITY															
Feb. 3	Northampton Town															
Feb. 7	DARLINGTON															
Feb. 14	Port Vale															
Feb. 21	MANSFIELD TOWN															
Feb. 28	Bury															
Mar. 7	ROCHDALE															
Mar. 13	Peterborough United															
Mar. 21	TORQUAY UNITED															
Mar. 27	Tranmere Rovers															
Apr. 4	A.F.C. BOURNEMOUTH															
Apr. 11	Bradford City															
Apr. 18	STOCKPORT COUNTY															
Apr. 20	Crewe Alexandra															
Apr. 25	WIMBLEDON															
May 2	Scunthorpe United															

FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR
As at 29th August, 1980.

		Home					Away					
	P	W	D	L	F	A	W	D	L	F	A	Pts.
Southend United	3	2	0	0	7	1	1	0	0	2	1	6
York City	3	1	1	0	4	0	1	0	0	1	0	5
Aldershot	3	2	0	0	4	0	0	1	0	2	2	5
Lincoln City	3	1	1	0	3	1	1	0	0	2	1	5
Mansfield Town	3	1	0	1	4	1	1	0	0	2	0	4
Peterborough United	3	0	1	0	2	2	1	1	0	5	1	4
Rochdale	3	1	1	0	5	1	0	1	0	2	2	4
Hartlepool United	3	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	4	1	3
Halifax Town	3	1	0	1	4	4	0	1	0	2	2	3
Stockport County	3	0	1	0	2	2	0	2	0	3	3	3
Bradford City	3	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	0	2	2	3
Torquay United	3	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	1	0	3
Darlington	3	1	1	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	2	3
Wimbledon	3	1	1	0	3	2	0	0	1	0	2	3
Bournemouth	3	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	4	3
Bury	3	0	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	4	5	2
Port Vale	3	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	2	1	6	2
Crewe Alexandra	3	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	2	2
Scunthorpe United	3	0	1	0	2	2	0	1	1	0	4	2
Doncaster Rovers	3	1	0	1	2	4	0	0	1	0	3	2
Northampton Town	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	1
Tranmere Rovers	3	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	1	3	1
Hereford United	3	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	0	5	1
Wigan Athletic	2	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	1	0	2	0

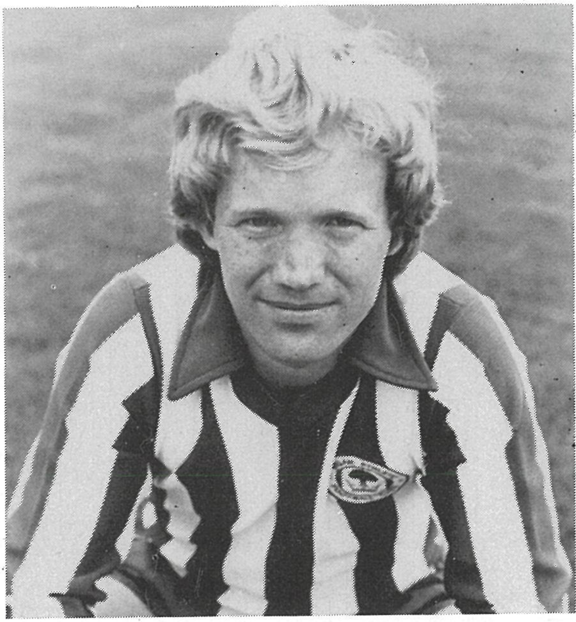
THE UMBRO FLOODLIT FOOTBALL LEAGUE
LEAGUE FIXTURES

Weds. 27.8.80	Port Vale -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 2.9.80	Wigan Athletic -v- Shrewsbury Town
Tues. 9.9.80	Wigan Athletic -v- Wrexham
Weds. 17.9.80	Chester -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 23.9.80	Wigan Athletic -v- Crewe Alexandra
Weds. 1.10.80	Shrewsbury Town -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 7.10.80	Wrexham -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 21.10.80	Wigan Athletic -v- Chester
Tues. 4.11.80	Wigan Athletic -v- Port Vale
Tues. 18.11.80	Crewe Alexandra -v- Wigan Athletic

THE UMBRO FLOODLIT FOOTBALL LEAGUE
LEAGUE CUP FIXTURES

Weds. 7.1.81	Port Vale -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 13.1.81	Wigan Athletic -v- Shrewsbury Town
Tues. 20.1.81	Wigan Athletic -v- Wrexham
Weds. 28.1.81	Chester -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 3.2.81	Wigan Athletic -v- Crewe Alexandra
Tues. 10.2.81	Crewe Alexandra -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 17.2.81	Wigan Athletic -v- Port Vale
Weds. 25.2.81	Shrewsbury Town -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 3.3.81	Wrexham -v- Wigan Athletic
Tues. 10.3.81	Wigan Athletic -v- Chester

PLAYER PORTRAIT



(Photo by courtesy of Wigan Reporter)

David Fretwell,
(Defender)
Birthplace: **Normanton**
Place of Residence: **Shevington**
Date of Birth: 18th February, 1952.
Height: **5'9"**
Weight: **11st. 0lbs.**
Previous Professional Clubs:
Bradford City, and California Sunshine.
Advice to Youngsters: **Train as hard as you can and practise your skills.**

Dave made his debut in League Football with Bradford City against Halifax Town in February, 1970. He has made 329 appearances in Football League games.

A VERY GOOD afternoon and once again welcome to Springfield Park. The Staff and Committee of the club would like to offer a special welcome to any friends and supporters who have made the journey from Aldershot. Our best wishes to all for a good afternoon's entertainment.

Last Saturday, Miss Sharon Moss, the daughter of Molly and Arthur, our Steward and Stewardess, was married to Mr. Keith Holgate. To Sharon and Keith we extend our sincere good wishes for health and prosperity in the future. When we stage our next "Married v Single" football match, it is going to be difficult to raise a "Singles" team!!!

On Saturday night last, we had a really superb artist on stage — Jed Winter. For all who like Country and Western style entertainment, you would really have enjoyed Jed Winter's singing. On Sunday night, we had yet another grand performance from Tony Vallis.

I would like to mention, that almost without exception, every artist who appears at our club is full of praise for the way our members appreciate the programmes on stage and the conduct of the audience is really first class.

Tomorrow morning (Sunday) at 12 o'clock is the big day for our Supporters' Club Cricket team, when at Norley Hall Cricket Club, they face Leigh Athletic Club in the final of the annual Norley Hall Cricket Club Knock-Out Competition. If only a small proportion of our members who live around Norley would go along and give the lads some moral support it would be appreciated. Given good weather, I can assure you that you will enjoy a couple of hours of good cricket. We wish Graham Pye and the team the best of luck. We would be pleased to add another trophy to stand alongside the Radio Manchester Shield!!

Yours sincerely,
Peter Woods.



NEWS ON 4 by Chris Gill

PRIOR TO today's matches, only one Fourth Division side had managed to preserve a one hundred per cent league record — Southend United. The Roots Hall side currently take the prize for the most accomplished scoring feat of the season. Last week in their game with Port Vale they hammered home five goals before half-time — a feat that will take some beating.

At the other end of the table, Hereford United, despite a mass of pre-season comings and goings have yet to get it together, but they will be boosted by the signing of Polish international Adam Musial who has already played a couple of games for the Edgar Street side.

Looking for goalscoring power to replace Ted McDougall, A.F.C. Bournemouth turned to non-league Harlow Town to snap up Neil Prosser. Prosser was in fact Harlow's goal scoring hero in last season's epic FA Cup run.

Player-seeking Halifax Town hope to solve any mid-field problems they might have by signing Tommy O'Neill from Tranmere Rovers.

York City, surprisingly among the division's pacemakers, do not seem to have suffered from the fact that they have recently lost Alistair Brown through injury, while Malcolm Smith, signed in the close season from Burnley, had to sit out the game with Bournemouth because of suspension.

Peterborough United, active in the transfer market in the past month, have signed Gordon Hodgson for £10,000 from Oxford United. He made his debut in the recent derby encounter with Lincoln City.

With the season hardly under way, two youngsters are already being hailed as stars for the future and their clubs have responded by intimating suitable transfer fees. Mark Hilditch added yet another goal for Rochdale in their draw with Hartlepool while Bobby Kellock, who joined Peterborough from non-league Kettering Town scored in the Posh's 4-0 win at Doncaster Rovers. It is believed that Newcastle United have eyes for Kellock who is valued at around £200,000.

Yet as these exciting players do their stuff, the numbers of spectators watching them is dwindling. Last weekend Darlington, Halifax Town and Wimbledon suffered crowds of less than 2,000.

In Wimbledon's case the 1,775 who saw their 1-0 victory over Port Vale constituted their lowest ever Football League attendance!

SCENE & HEARD

A GREAT deal has been written in the Press recently about the problems confronting football clubs at this present time. As ever, arguments have poured from the pens of journalists, managers, and officials. Regardless of the broader concepts of the argument, the "gate" figures for Saturday, 16th August and Saturday, 23rd August do suggest that clubs in the Fourth Division of the Football League can look forward to a rather testing winter period. Against a backdrop of recession and unemployment, attendances on the first two Saturdays in the new season totalled, at Fourth Division level, 32,721 spectators and 35,144 spectators, respectively, giving an average figure of slightly more than 2,827 spectators attending each of the twenty-four matches played.

As this is early season when interest has been re-awakened and hopes renewed, it bodes ill for those clubs which prove themselves unable to provide the necessary entertainment-value and a sustained effort for promotion in the dismal winter months which lie ahead. One club has already attracted fewer than 1,500 spectators to a league fixture, while only Lincoln City and Wigan Athletic have managed to top the 5,000-mark. With money tightening, and the public looking more and more for "bargains" and "value", clubs in the Fourth Division of the Football League will be hard pressed to meet the demands of their supporters, and yet maintain the realistic financial policies which are essential if they are to survive the rigours of the winter months. It is high time that everyone within the game take a good long look at their own commitment, the "value" of the product which they are trying to "sell", and, having assessed the situation, to take the necessary action to secure the future of their clubs and build progressively for better days.

Smaller divisions, regionalisation, changes of rules, measures to combat hooliganism, the need to create a family atmosphere, and increased commercialisation, have all been put forward as targets to be achieved. Unless football is prepared to put its own house in order, starting within the confines of each individual club, only a handful of "city teams" will be capable of adapting to the demands which will be placed upon clubs in the immediate future. At whatever level a club may operate, unless a club can provide reasonable amenities, good quality entertainment, and above all, "value for money", it can only be a matter of time before a more critical and aware following will exercise its undoubted right of preferential choice as to how it spends its time and limited financial resources.

LATICS AWAY

SATURDAY,
13th SEPTEMBER, 1980.
KICK-OFF 3.00 p.m.
Football League Division Four

DARLINGTON

- v -

WIGAN ATHLETIC

Take M62 motorway until its junction with motorway A1M. Leave A1(M) by A66(M), then follow A66 to Darlington. At roundabout, take the fourth exit into Victoria Road for the Feethams Ground of Darlington Football Club.

CAN YOU HELP?

Thanks to the generosity and co-operation of our Board of Directors and the Wigan League of Hospital Friends, it is hoped that patients in the local hospitals (Wigan Infirmary, Whelley, Billinge and Wrightington) will soon be able to hear a full ninety-minute commentary on all our first team home League and cup matches.

Two or three volunteer commentators may be required and anyone interested in helping to make a patient's stay in hospital a little more enjoyable should contact Mr. H. Carey, 118 Scot Lane, Aspull, or telephone Wigan 832201, giving name, address and any other details thought to be relevant. Auditions will be held, if necessary, before live commentaries begin.

Applicants should also have some or all of the following qualities:-
A good speaking voice.
A reasonably wide vocabulary.
A flair for description (it is no use if the commentator dries up after five minutes), including an ability to appreciate the opposition's good points and the difficulties of the referee and linesmen.
Perhaps, most important of all, a dedication to the job is needed to ensure that a commentary goes out, even when things are not going well for the team.



The Chairman's Column

THE BOARD of Directors, Ian McNeill and myself would have liked a better start to the season, but we are far from downhearted. It is too early to become despondent, and, as impatient as I am for success, I am experienced enough to know that fortunes in football can change very quickly.

We are all confident that if we can get over the early season injury problems, the team will settle down to produce better results, and yet, I can assure you that if we do not get the improvement we are all looking for, steps will be taken to put matters right and give the Wigan public what we want for them — a winning team to be proud of. I am sure anyone who travelled to Preston could not help but be encouraged by the team's performance at Deepdale, when our players showed great fighting spirit against their Second Division opponents. The backing given to the team was much appreciated; let us have more of it. Everyone at the club is looking forward to the return game at Wigan next Wednesday evening.

Although we are hoping that time will solve most of our early-season worries, we are not sitting back without making positive attempts to strengthen our playing staff. Over the past ten days, Ian McNeill has made enquiries about two players currently on the books of First Division clubs, and negotiations are still continuing. Meanwhile in spite of the disappointments, get behind the manager and his team. Ian and the boys will really appreciate your support.

With money hard to come by and jobs threatened, we have to do everything possible to make sure that Wigan Athletic remains a viable force in Fourth Division Soccer.

Best Wishes,

Freddie Pye,
Chairman.

Solutions to Pastime Funtime

SOCCER NINETY-NINER No. 3— *Across* 16. Sparta 7. & **9ac** nine-eight 8. Owls (Sheff. Wed.) 9. See **7ac** 11. Cliff 12. Hill 14. See **13dn** 15. Rollin *Down:* 1. Aston 2. Paul Allen (W. Ham) 3. Waterford 4. Highfield 5. Les 10. Blunt 13 & **14ac** Jim Iley.
MIXED DOUBLES No. 3 Rams, Hornets
CLUB CLUE No. 3 Leeds (leads)
ON THE BALL No. 3 Dixie, Mills, Kelly, Giles.



BALL DONOR

Today's Match Ball has been kindly donated by Mabs Cross Motors Ltd., Mesnes Street, Wigan. Telephone No. Wigan 43271.

TEAMS

Wigan Athletic (Royal Blue & White Stripes)		Aldershot (Red Shirts)
John Brown	1	Glen Johnson
John Curtis	2	Nigel Edwards
Dave Fretwell	3	Alan Wooler
Tommy Gore	4	Les Briley
Colin Methven	5	Paul Bennett
Neil Davids	6	Joe Jopling
Dave McMullan	7	Alex McGregor
Jeff Wright	8	Murray Brodie
Peter Houghton	9	Colin Garwood
Bobby Hutchinson	10	Malcolm Crosby
Maurice Whittle	11	Stuart Robinson
Tony Quinn	12	Mark Sanford

OFFICIALS

Referee:
MR. G. E. FLINT
(Kirkby in Ashfield, Notts)
Started junior refereeing at 14 years of age and graduated through the Midland and Central Leagues to the Football League list. Has refereed various County Cup Finals and officiated in Italy 1974 — Roma v Newcastle — also a U.E.F.A. Cup match in Moscow. Married, with three children he is a Pit Head Baths' Superin- tendent with interests of interior decorating and bowls. Also keen on youth football.

Linesmen:
Red Flag
MR. L. R. DILKES
(Mossley, Lancs.)
Yellow Flag
MR. S. W. MASON
(Nelson, Lancs.)

HERE NEXT

Wednesday, September 3rd, 1980.
Kick-off 7.45 p.m.

WIGAN ATHLETIC -v- PRESTON NORTH END

Football League Cup Second Round, Second Leg

Designed and printed by Publicity Print Services, Ashton-in-Makerfield. Tel: (0942) 712480